



Montana

## Department of Labor and Industry

Commissioner's Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### MONTANA ECONOMY POSTS LARGE JOB GAIN

HELENA, Mont. --- Montana's economy saw an increase of 2,000 jobs from September to October. This continues a trend of strong gains that have been seen throughout 2006 and indicates that job opportunities remain available. The state's unemployment rate of 3.6% remained unchanged from September to October.

"Over 11,000 more jobs have been created in 2006 relative to 2005," said Labor Commissioner Keith Kelly. "This is another indicator of the sustained strength of the state's economy."

Government saw the largest monthly increase in jobs at 1,800, most of which were accounted for by local school districts. Construction, Professional and Business Services, and Private Education and Health Services\*\* each grew by 600. Natural Resources and Mining and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities saw an increase of 200 jobs, while Manufacturing and Financial Activities 100 positions. Information\*\* remained unchanged, while Other Services\*\* declined by 100. Leisure and Hospitality saw the largest decline at 1,000 positions from September to October.

Additional information related to this employment situation press release can be found by visiting the Research and Analysis website at [www.ourfactsyourfuture.org](http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org)

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*\*Unemployment figures are seasonally-adjusted. Seasonally-adjusted numbers remove the effects of events that follow a more or less regular month-to-month pattern each year. These adjustments make nonseasonal patterns easier to identify. The margin of error for the unemployment rate is plus or minus 0.8 percentage points at the 90 percent confidence level. All questions relating to the calculation of unemployment rates should be directed to Tyler Turner, Economist with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Analysis Bureau.*

*\*\*These industry sectors are not-seasonally adjusted.*

**\*\*\*\*\* INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET \*\*\*\*\***

**County unemployment rates are also available in our monthly economic bulletin, *Montana Economy at a Glance*, and on our website.**

**Labor Force data for Montana Indian Reservations is available on the Research and Analysis Bureau's website at:**

**[www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/?PAGEID=67&SUBID=121](http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/?PAGEID=67&SUBID=121)**

**The November 2006 Labor Situation Report will be released Friday December 22, 2006.**